

**To:** "Tom Hagler" [Hagler.Tom@epamail.epa.gov]  
**From:** "Obegi, Doug"  
**Sent:** Fri 9/17/2010 9:26:44 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Delta electeds urge public, regional inclusion in meetings on Delta's future  
Letter to Snow Salazar 9-16-10.pdf

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

September 16, 2010

Melissa Jones

PR10-54

916-651-4005

Delta electeds urge public, regional inclusion in meetings on Delta's future

State and federal representatives request Delta participation, public access to meetings

SACRAMENTO—Members of Congress and the California legislature responded today to news of closed-door meetings to discuss the future of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, urging that the talks include Delta representation and be opened to the public.

Senator Lois Wolk, who represents four of the five counties in the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta, pressed for transparency and openness in the meetings on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan being convened by the offices of the California Natural Resources Agency and the Department of the Interior.

Wolk, Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, and Congressional Representatives John Garamendi, Doris Matsui, Jerry McNerney, George Miller, and Mike Thomson—as well as State Senator Mark DeSaulnier and State Assembly Members Bill Berryhill, Joan Buchanan, Alyson Huber, Tom Torlakson, and Mariko Yamada—wrote Resources Secretary Lester Snow and Interior Director Kenneth Salazar today to officially request that the meetings be more inclusive and transparent.

"This most recent exclusion only serves to further frustrate and anger those within the Delta community who are genuinely interested in working constructively with the state and federal agencies and the newly formed Delta Stewardship Council," the letter reads. "In short, this new Delta Principals Group process represents a return to the closed-door deal-making that has historically resulted in further degradation of the Delta."

"The meetings show a lack of commitment to achieving the coequal goals established by the 2009 legislative package on water," commented Wolk. "As defined by that package, the state's goals are to provide a more reliable water supply for California and protect, restore, and enhance the Delta ecosystem

'in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.' Without Delta representatives at the table, this group cannot credibly ensure that negotiations live up to these goals."

###

Melissa Jones

Press Secretary

Senator Lois Wolk, 5th District

Phone: 916 651-4005

E-mail: [melissa.jones@sen.ca.gov](mailto:melissa.jones@sen.ca.gov)